APR 2 9 2004 SONAMIO1-07

PATENT B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

HOWARD M. MARKS, ET AL

Serial No.

09/944,533

Filed:

31 August 2001

For

GAMING APPARATUS AND METHOD

INCLUDING BONUS FEATURES

Examiner

White, Carmen D.

Group 3714

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Group Art Unit 3714, Commissioner of Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

Kellie Carr

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MAY 0 4 2004

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

GAFICE OF PETITIONS

Mail Stop Group Art Unit 3714 Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the first Office Action dated December 20, 2002, the applicants submit the following amendment and remarks. Re-examination and reconsideration is requested.